

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for restoring a path in a communication system between zones
2 comprising:
3 establishing an inter-zone link with a first border node of a source zone with a second
4 border node of an adjacent destination zone;
5 identifying an inter-zone link failure between the source zone and the adjacent
6 destination zone;
7 identifying a pre-planned alternative route;
8 informing a source/destination node of the adjacent destination zone;
9 informing a node in the source zone of the preplanned alternative route; and
10 providing communication between the pre-planned alternate route between the
11 destination zone and the source zone.

1 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 routing the preplanned alternative route through a transit zone.

1 3. The method of claims 2 further comprising:
2 requesting new paths to be established between zones.

1 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the alternative route is based on class of
2 service requirements.

1 5. The method of claim 2 wherein the alternative route is based on class of
2 service requirements.

1 6. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 establishing new paths to be established between zones.

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the alternative route is based on class of
2 service requirements.

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the alternative route is based on class of
2 service requirements.

9. A network element configured to restore a path in a communication system comprised of:

- a processor configured to:
 - establish an inter-zone link with a first border node of a source zone with a second border node of an adjacent destination zone;
 - identify an inter-zone link failure between the source zone and the adjacent destination zone;
 - identify a pre-planned alternative route;
 - inform a source/destination node of the adjacent destination zone;
 - inform a node in the source zone of the preplanned alternative route; and
 - provide communication between the pre-planned alternate route between the destination zone and the source zone.

10. The network element of claim 9 wherein the processor is further configured to: route the preplanned alternative route through a transit zone.

11. The network element of claim 10 wherein the processor is further configured to:

- request new paths to be established between zones.

12. The network element of claim 11 wherein the alternative route is based on class of service requirements.

13. The network element of claim 10 wherein method of claim 2 wherein the alternative route is based on class of service requirements.

14. The network element of claim 9 wherein the processor is further configured to: establish new paths to be established between zones.

15. The network element of claim 14 wherein the alternative route is based on class of service requirements.

16. The network element of claim 9 wherein the alternative route is based on class of service requirements.

17. A computer system comprising:
a processor;
a computer readable medium coupled to the processor; and
computer code, encoded in the computer readable medium, configured to cause the processor to:
establish an inter-zone link with a first border node of a source zone with a second border node of an adjacent destination zone;
identify an inter-zone link failure between the source zone and the adjacent destination zone;
identify a pre-planned alternative route;
inform a source/destination node of the adjacent destination zone;
inform a node in the source zone of the preplanned alternative route; and
provide communication between the pre-planned alternate route between the destination zone and the source zone.

18. The computer system of claim 17 wherein the computer code is further configured to cause the processor to:
route the preplanned alternative route through a transit zone.

19. The computer system of claim 18 wherein the computer code is further configured to cause the processor to:
request new paths to be established between zones.

20. The computer system of claim 19 wherein the alternative route is based on class of service requirements.

21. The computer system of claim 18 wherein the alternative route is based on class of service requirements.

22. The computer system of claim 17 wherein the computer code is further configured to cause the processor to:
establish new paths to be established between zones.

1 23. The computer system of claim 22 wherein the alternative route is based on
2 class of service requirements.

1 24. The computer system of claim 17 wherein the alternative route is based on
2 class of service requirements.

1 25. An apparatus for restoring a path in a communication system comprising:
2 means for establishing an inter-zone link with a first border node of a source zone
3 with a second border node of an adjacent destination zone;
4 means for identifying an inter-zone link failure between the source zone and the
5 adjacent destination zone;
6 means for identifying a pre-planned alternative route;
7 means for informing a source/destination node of the adjacent destination zone;
8 means for informing a node in the source zone of the preplanned alternative route; and
9 means for providing communication between the pre-planned alternate route between
10 the destination zone and the source zone.

1 26. The apparatus for restoring a path in a communication system of claim 25
2 further comprising:
3 means for routing the preplanned alternative route through a transit zone.

1 27. The apparatus for restoring a path in a communication system of claim 26
2 further comprising:
3 means for requesting new paths to be established between zones.

1 28. The apparatus for restoring a path in a communication system of claim 27
2 wherein the alternative route is based on class of service requirements.

1 29. The apparatus for restoring a path in a communication system of claim 28
2 wherein the alternative route is based on class of service requirements.

1 30. The apparatus for restoring a path in a communication system of claim 25
2 further comprising:
3 means for establishing new paths to be established between zones.

31. The apparatus for restoring a path in a communication system of claim 30 wherein the alternative route is based on class of service requirements.

32. The apparatus for restoring a path in a communication system of claim 25 wherein the alternative route is based on class of service requirements.

33. A computer program product, encoded in computer readable media, comprising:

- a first set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to establish an inter-zone link with a first border node of a source zone with a second border node of an adjacent destination zone;
- a second set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to identify an inter-zone link failure between the source zone and the adjacent destination zone;
- a third set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to identify a pre-planned alternative route;
- a fourth set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to inform a source/destination node of the adjacent destination zone;
- a fifth set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to inform a node in the source zone of the preplanned alternative route; and
- a sixth set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to provide communication between the pre-planned alternate route between the destination zone and the source zone.

34. The computer program product of claim 33, encoded in computer readable media, further comprising:

- a seventh set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to provide routing the preplanned alternative route through a transit zone.

35. The computer program product of claim 34, encoded in computer readable media, further comprising:

- an eighth set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to request new paths to be established between zones.

1 36. The computer program product of 35 wherein the alternative route is based on
2 class of service requirements.

1 37. The computer program product of 34 wherein the alternative route is based on
2 class of service requirements.

1 38. The computer program product of claim 33, encoded in computer readable
2 media, further comprising:
3 a ninth set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to establish
4 new paths to be established between zones.

1 39. The computer program product of claim 38 wherein the alternative route is
2 based on class of service requirements.

1 40. The computer program product of 33 wherein the alternative route is based on
2 class of service requirements.